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COUNTRY

Eastern Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Stendal

EVALUATION See below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED 16 to 26 August 1952

DATE PREPARED 22 September 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 16 August 1952, the Tauentzien Kaserne on Osterburger Strasse, Stendal (M 51/Y 65), was occupied by about 125 soldiers and guarded by sentries wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. Three groups each of 20 unarmed soldiers mostly wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, and some with red-bordered black epaulets marched out of the installation in the direction of Schiller Strasse.

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2. On 17 August, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Schiller Strasse was occupied by 100 to 150 soldiers mostly wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, and some with black-bordered crimson epaulets.

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3. On 16 August, no training activity was noticed at the Albrecht der Baer Kaserne on Friedrich Ebert Strasse. Only individual officers or EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia were seen.

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4. On 15 August, the construction work at the Fallschirmjaegerlager (parachutist camp) east of the road to Borstel was completed. Four one-story buildings each with 20 windows on the front and 20 on the rear and a wooden shed, 50 meters long, had been built.

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The installation had a capacity of about 400 soldiers. A unit of about 50 unarmed soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets marched toward the camp at 11 a.m., coming from the direction of Borstel. Another unit of 50 soldiers left the camp a short time later and marched toward the southern section of the airfield.

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5. On 16 August, the installations of the Borstel fliegerhorst quartered air force personnel and a small number of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Residents stated that most of the soldiers of the AT unit were not at the post. About 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia were in field training with carbines and light machine guns north of the ammunition depot.

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6. On 3 August, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Schillerstrasse was occupied almost to capacity.

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7. On 13 August, the Tautenzien Kaserne on Osterburger Strasse was occupied by troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. [redacted] their number had increased since previous weeks. There was intensive training activity but no motor vehicle traffic. [redacted] during the period from 5 to 9 August, the installation was occupied by at least 200 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 9 August, about 50 of these soldiers were engaged in physical training, 50 received instruction and 50 men were drilling. (1)

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8. On 9 August, the military hospital on Rixter Strasse was occupied to at least two thirds of its capacity. All windows were lighted at dusk. Source estimated that the hospital had a capacity of at least 500 beds. (2)

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[redacted] Three trucks were cut in [redacted] in the same manner about 100 meters from the individual groups of guns. Each group was commanded by two officers and consisted of about 22 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The emplacements and trucks were later camouflaged. An observation team of 1 officer and 6 soldiers from each group wearing either artillery insignia or signal insignia advanced about 4 km toward north and constructed a telephone line after the emplacements had been completed. [redacted] no radio equipment. The rocket launchers were still in their emplacements from 2 to 6 p.m. on 25 July. Loading and aiming practices with training shells about 130 cm long were performed. The windows of the cabs of each rocket launcher were covered by steel plates about 1 to 2 cm thick which had slits, and were fitted on the top of the cab. [redacted] saw no radio equipment. The guns were observed being taken from the emplacements at 5:30 p.m. and, at 6 p.m., the troops marched to the Borstel Fliegerhorst Kaserne. (3)

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[redacted] Comments.

- (1) The information contained in the present report tends to indicate that until mid-August, most of the units of the 207th Inf Rifle Div stationed in the Tautenzien Kaserne, the Hindenburg Kaserne and the Albrecht Kaserne were away for practices, probably in the northern section of Leiching Heath. Other information indicated that they were probably quartered in the woods camp south of Lottendorf and the barracks installation in Staats. [redacted] Although a report in early July 1952 and the information contained in paragraph 6 of the present report tended to indicate that the Hindenburg Kaserne was at least

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partially occupied, the information contained in paragraph 2 is mid-August can be considered credible as units of the division were reportedly moved to Letzling Heath for practices. [REDACTED]

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- (2) In mid-August 1952, [REDACTED] six brick buildings were under construction in the Fallschirmjaegerlager parachutist camp north of the Saentzien Kaserne. [REDACTED] they would house the military hospital from Sefer Strasse. [REDACTED] The occupation of [REDACTED] the camp is undetermined. The truck belongs to the Third Shock Army.

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- (3) The present information confirms that the Borstel Fliegerhorst installation is occupied by an unidentified 100-mm AT unit, probably a regiment, and the unidentified rocket launcher regiment of the LXIX Hitz Rifle Corps.

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[REDACTED] Lurin; the period of observation [REDACTED] 25X1
[REDACTED] the AT unit was probably in Altengrabow where, on 21 August, 8 x 100-mm AT guns were entrained, probably for Stendal. They may have belonged to this unit. [REDACTED]

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- (4) [REDACTED]

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